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Prologue to Volume 5

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EDITOR'S PROLOGUE

WELCOME TO THE 5TH VOLUME

Linguistic Portfolios (LP) continues to attract a huge readership from around the globe. Here are the statistics. In the four years of its existence, articles from *LP* have been downloaded 31,571 times. Last year alone, 14,911 articles were downloaded. Even though *LP* represents only 6.84% of the 847 documents available at Saint Cloud State University's (SCSU) Repository, it accounts for 31.75% of all downloads. Furthermore, 4 of the 10 most downloaded documents from SCSU are from *LP*. We encourage you to publish your research in *LP*. Your work will be noticed, guaranteed! Here are the steps to follow to get your research published in *LP*. First, submit a paper. Once received, it goes through three stages. The editorial board makes its decision based on two criteria: innovation and depth of scholarship. Prospective authors are notified by mid-January regarding the status of their papers. If the paper is accepted, the author is asked to reformat it according to *LP* style sheet and guidelines that are e-mailed to all prospective authors. The accepted paper is then divided amongst two associate editors who proofread it for typos, omitted words, missing references, missing legends, etc. Now that you know the process, we encourage you to submit your term papers, senior theses, and summaries of your MA theses for publication in *LP*. The journal is open to all students from Minnesota and neighboring states whose papers are innovative and of extremely high academic quality. The only requirement is that papers be recommended by the faculty member who taught the course or who supervised the research project. His/her name appears at the end of the paper as the recommender. The deadline for submission is always **December 31st** of each year. *We are now accepting submissions for Volume 6, 2017.*

Volume 5 features several excellent articles on a wide variety of linguistic topics. The feature article for this volume is Colette Feehan's paper on the optimality theory and child language acquisition. Meet the two associate editors of Volume 5, 2016:

James Rutledge is completing a Master of Science degree in Social Responsibility at St. Cloud State University. In 2013, James earned a MA in English, and in 2010, he earned a BA in English, philosophy, and sociology. James also just completed an MA in TESL (December 2015). James lives in Brainerd, Minnesota and teaches English as an adjunct instructor at St. Cloud State University, Central Lakes College, and St. Cloud Technical and Community College. He has already published a paper in *LP*, which has received a lot of attention and has been downloaded hundreds of times. Email address: rujames77@gmail.com.

Chris Reigstad earned his MA in Literature at SCSU and is currently pursuing an MA in TESL and Applied Linguistics. He has worked as a writing center consultant, private tutor, and an editor. He currently teaches English in the Intensive English Center at SCSU and will transition from this position to a linguistic teaching assistant next year. His areas of interests are sociophonetics and the acoustic phonetics of L2 English. He can be reached via e-mail at reigs020@umn.edu.

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